

# Turkey - General Regulations

## Resident and Nonresident Turkey Hunting License Privileges

Three wild turkey may be taken by hunters who possess one of the following valid base licenses or license combinations: resident (Class X, XJ, AB-L, A-L, Classes A+CS+BG); or a free license (Military, Disabled Veteran, former POW or Senior Citizen); or nonresident (Classes E+CS/LE+WW or Classes XXJ+CS/LE). Underage residents and resident landowners hunting on their own land (see page 7) may take three turkeys without a license. Two bearded turkeys may be taken in the spring and one of either sex in the fall. However, **no more than one** turkey may be taken in the fall.

### Additional licenses must be purchased:

- to hunt on national forest lands: Class I (required for Class E).
- to hunt with a handgun: Class A-1. (Must be age 21 or older, required for all hunters except resident landowners hunting on their own land.)

### Resident Landowner Privileges:

West Virginia resident landowners (see page 7) may hunt on their own land without obtaining a license.

Resident landowners hunting on their own property without a license can take the same number of turkeys as a licensed hunter. A hunter (licensee or landowner) cannot take more than the number of turkeys allowed in the respective seasons.

### Firearms and bows legal for hunting wild turkey:

Wild turkey may be hunted with rifles, handguns, muzzleloaders, shotguns, or bows (see exception for Youth Turkey Hunt on page 25).



## Field Tagging, Checking and Transporting

Each person killing a turkey must, within one hour and before moving the carcass from where it was killed, complete and attach the game field tag supplied with his or her license. If none is supplied the hunter must make one. This tag must bear the hunter's name, address, hunting license number (if required) and the date, time and county of kill. The field tag must remain on the carcass until it is dressed for consumption.

The carcass of each turkey shall be delivered to an official game checking station or a conservation officer for checking and retagging before it is either skinned or transported beyond the boundaries of the county adjacent to that in which the kill was made and within 72 hours from when it was killed or 24 hours from the close of the respective season, whichever comes first. The checking tag shall remain on the bird until it is dressed for consumption.

No person may transport wildlife **killed by another hunter**, unless the wildlife or parts thereof is accompanied by a paper tag filled out legibly bearing the signature, address, date of kill, hunting license number (if required) and the official game checking tag number (if required) of the hunter who killed the wildlife. The tag shall also specify the species and quantity of wildlife.

## Common Violations

Following are the most common violations observed by Conservation Officers during the turkey hunting seasons:

- Hunting over bait
- Hunting without license
- Improper license
- Making false application for license
- Exceeding the limits
- Loaded gun in a vehicle
- Failure to field tag turkey
- Illegal possession of wildlife
- Hunting without permission

## Reward

Reward for information leading to arrest and conviction of person found guilty of:

- illegally killing a turkey - \$200
- hunting turkey over bait - \$100
- willfully destroying a turkey nest or eggs - \$100

Sponsored by: WV Chapter of NWTF

# 2006 Fall and 2007 Spring Seasons - Turkey

## 2006 Fall Turkey Counties and Season Dates

Only one turkey of either sex may be taken during the fall hunting season with either a bow or a gun.

### It is illegal:

- to use electronic calls.
- to hunt with the use of bait.



October 21 – October 28	October 21 – November 4	October 21 – November 18
Brooke Hancock Marshall Ohio Wirt Wood	Preston	Berkeley Grant Greenbrier Hampshire Hardy Mineral Monroe Morgan Nicholas Pendleton Pocahontas Randolph Tucker Webster

## 2007 Spring Gobbler Season Regulations

**Statewide: April 23 - May 19, 2007**

**Shooting hours:** ½ hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.

### It is illegal to:

- have an uncased firearm or a bow in your possession in the woods after 1 p.m.
- hunt with dogs
- use electronic calls
- hunt with the use of bait

## Spring Gobbler Survey

The Division of Natural Resources conducts an annual Spring Gobbler Survey. Spring turkey hunters interested in participating in the survey should contact the following office:

**Division of Natural Resources Operations Center**  
c/o Dr. Randy Tucker  
P.O. Box 67 • Elkins, WV 26241  
(304) 637-0245 • email: randytucker@wvdnr.gov

## Youth Spring Gobbler Hunt

A special one day youth spring gobbler hunt will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2007.

The bag limit is one bearded turkey and the harvested bird will count toward the hunter's annual bag limit. Only shotguns using shot size 4, 5 or 6 are legal.

### Youth hunters must:

- be at least 8 years old and no more than 14 years old,
- be accompanied by a licensed adult, at least 21 years of age, who cannot carry a gun or a bow and must remain close enough to render advice and assistance.

*and, if a nonresident,*

- possess a Class XXJ license + CS/LE stamp.

**Nonresident adults accompanying youth hunters must possess Class E+WW+CS/LE licenses, and if hunting on National Forest lands, a Class I stamp.**